APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/455,109	12/06/1999	JAMES H. WOLFSTON JR.	P-01777-US1	4659

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EXAMINER
STONE, JONATHAN D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2178	6

DATE MAILED: 06/18/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application N● ●	Applicant(s)
Offic **Action Summary**	09/455,109	WOLFSTON ET AL.
	Examiner	**Art Unit**	
	Jonathan D Stone	2178	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _05 March 2002_ .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-27_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-27_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

    If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

    a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _5_ .

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6)☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This action is responsive to communications: Application filed on 8/25/99.

2.   IDS filed on 3/5/02 (paper 5).

3.   Claims 1-27 are pending in the case. Claims 1, 9, 15, 21 and 25 are independent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-4, 7-12, 15-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Center

for Matalloenzyme Studies: Summer Undergraduate Research Program (herein SURP;

www.uga.edu/cms/SURP.html 3/1/1998).

5.   **Regarding independent claims 1, 9, and 15,** SURP teaches presenting an application

form over a computer network to an applicant, the application including at least one user-

activateable hyperlink (the input boxes of the application are located on page 3 and hyperlinks

are located on page 2, "first *visit this page* to select... ," and page 3, "*See this page* for faculty

list.").

        SURP does not explicitly teach, upon activation of the hyperlink, displaying a

communication to the applicant from an identified individual associated with the institution,

thereby encouraging the applicant to complete the application by socializing the application

process with a communication to the applicant from the identified individual. However, SURP

does teach, upon activation of the hyperlink, displaying a web page from which a user can access

a communication to the applicant from an identified individual associated with the institution,

thereby encouraging the applicant to complete the application by socializing the application

process with a communication to the applicant from the identified individual. When either of the

previously mentioned hyperlinks is activated, the CMS Faculty page is retrieved, displaying a list

of professors associated with the university. Further activation of the hyperlinks associated with

each faculty member retrieves a communication from the respective faculty member. It would

have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify SURP

so that the hyperlink located on the application would have retrieved the communication as well.

Such would have been done if fewer professors were involved to not require extra clicks from a

user or to present the communications to the user quicker.

6.   **Regarding dependent claim 2,** SURP teaches the institution being a college or

university and the identified individual being a student, faculty member, or alumnus associated

with the institution (the institution is associated with the University of Georgia and the

individuals are professors).

7.   **Regarding dependent claims 3, 10, and 16,** SURP teaches the communication

describing the individual and providing a means of communication (the professors display names

and backgrounds and provide e-mails, see the individual faculty pages, e.g. Harry A. Dailey).

8.   **Regarding dependent claim 4,** SURP teaches the communication including a still or

motion image of the individual (photos are shown of most professors, see CMS Faculty and the

individual faculty pages).

9.   **Regarding dependent claim 7,** SURP teaches the communication including contact

information (the professors provide e-mails, see the individual faculty pages, e.g. Harry A.

Dailey).

10.   **Regarding dependent claim 8,** SURP teaches providing to the user a response when an

application is completed, the response containing a message from an individual associated with

the university and a means of contacting the individual. This means of contact is available only

after a user completes the application and submits it.

11.   **Regarding dependent claims 11 and 17,** SURP teaches the communication including a

new Web Page and a description of the individual (see CMS Faculty and the individual faculty

pages). SURP does not explicitly teach the communication including a Web Page in a pop-up

window. However, it was known and typical in the art at the time of the invention for new

browser windows to be presented in either the same window as the activated link, or presented in

a new window acting as a pop-up window. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify SURP in order to enable the associated pages to appear in a pop-up window. This would have given the user the ability to view both the communication and the application at the same time, allowing the user to continue filling out the application, copy and paste information between windows easily, and read the communication at will.

12.   **Regarding dependent claim 12 and 18,** the claim incorporates substantially similar subject matter as claim 1, and is rejected along the same rationale.

Claims 5-6, 13-14, 19-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over SURP in view of Popp et al (herein Popp; USPN 6249291 – filing date 9/22/1995).

13.   **Regarding dependent claims 5, 13, 14, and 19,** SURP does not explicitly teach the communication content being dependent on information entered into the form. However, Popp does teach delivering a web page to a user wherein the web page is a response to a user that depends on a user's input (col 3, ln 35-40 and 57-63). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine SURP and Popp. Such a combination would have made the creation of the application web page easier by implementing an object-oriented paradigm.

14.   **Regarding dependent claim 6,** SURP does not explicitly teach the communication

content being assembled in response to activation of the hyperlink. However, Popp does teach

the dynamic creation of a web page (col 3, ln 35-40 and 57-63). It would have been obvious to

one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Popp and SURP in such a

way to dynamically assemble content in response to the activation of a hyperlink. This would

have allowed a web page to be responsive to user input on a prior page. For example, if a

number of SURP applicants had already chosen a professor with whom they want to do research

a responsive web page could inform the applicant to choose a different professor, or address a

different problematic input error.

15.   **Regarding dependent claim 20,** SURP does not explicitly teach the communication

being constructed from components. However, Popp does teach the construction of web pages

by using various components (col 4, ln 41-47). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary

skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine SURP and Popp. Such a combination

would have made the creation of the application web page easier by implementing an object-

oriented paradigm.

16.   **Regarding independent claims 21 and 25,** SURP teaches presenting an electronic form

over a computer network to the user, the form including plural information fields and at least one

user-activateable hyperlink that is activateable by the user after the user enters information into

one or more predefined information fields of the form (the information fields of the form are

located on page 3 and hyperlinks, activateable after the user enters information into one or more

of the fields, are located on page 2, "first *visit this page* to select... ," and page 3, "*See this page for faculty list.*" Of the CMS: Summer Undergraduate Research Program web page).

17.   SURP teaches, upon activation of the hyperlink, displaying to the user information that relates to the underlying purpose of the form. SURP does not explicitly teach displaying customized information that is parametrically customized according to information in one or more of the predefined information fields. However, Popp does teach delivering information to a user wherein the information is a response to a user and the information is customized based on input provided by the user in the previous page (col 3, ln 35-40 and 57-63). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine SURP and Popp. Such a combination would have made the creation of the application web page easier by implementing an object-oriented paradigm and would have better informed users by enabling custom messages to be presented to users.

18.   **Regarding dependent claim 22 and 26,** SURP teaches including a communication to a user from an identified individual associated with the institution. When either of the hyperlink located on the CMS: Summer Undergraduate Research Program web page are activated, the CMS Faculty page is retrieved, displaying a list of professors associated with the university and communications regarding their respective work. Further activation of the hyperlinks associated with each faculty member retrieves an extended communication from the respective faculty member.

19.   **Regarding dependent claim 23 and 27,** SURP teaches an institution being a college or

university. SURP does not explicitly teach an admission form into a college. However, SURP

does teach a college-associated research program admission form. It would have been obvious

to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use similar means with standard

college admission forms. This would have made applying to the school easier, cheaper, and

faster for many students with Internet access.

20.   **Regarding dependent claim 24,** SURP teaches communication information that does

not explicitly relate to instructions for completing the application (see CMS Faculty and the

individual faculty pages).

21.   Prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to disclosure.

US-5,706,434	To:	Kremen et al.
US-5,572,643	To:	Judson, David H.
US-6,029,141	To:	Bezos et al.

Conclusion

22.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Jonathan D Stone whose telephone number is (703) 305-7854.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Heather R Herndon can be reached on (703) 308-5186. The fax phone numbers for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-7239 for regular

communications and (703) 746-7238 for After Final communications. Responses to this action

may be mailed to:

> Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
> Washington, D.C. 20231

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to:

> Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive
> Arlington, VA, Fourth Floor (receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding

should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

JDS

June 3, 2003

STEPHEN S. HONG

PRIMARY EXAMINER